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States. Chapter 4 is a tabular résumé of population statistics, illustrated with a dot map; Chapter 5 makes scattering additions to this fund of geographic information in a study of the distribution of the stock by trades; Chapter 17 recites the distribution of churches and churchgoers. Together these sections furnish a basis for comparison with similar data on other races. A comparative study of the distribution of immigrant races within the United States would be invaluable.

Not the least worth-while section of the book is the appendix, a bibliography of printed material on the Czech in America.

D. L. WHITTLESEY

CHAPTERS IN THE EARLIER COLONIAL HISTORY OF LOUISIANA

N. M. M. SURREY. **The Commerce of Louisiana During the French Régime, 1699–1763.** 476 pp.; maps, diagrs., bibliogr. (Columbia Univ. Studies in Hist., Econ., and Public Law, Vol. 71, No. 1.) Columbia University, Longmans, Green & Co., Agents, New York, 1916. \$3.50. 10 x 6 inches.

This extended account of the commerce of Louisiana during the French period will be of value to students of the historical geography of the United States, for it is the first systematic discussion of all branches of that commerce and is based largely on unpublished documents. In Chapter 1 Dr. Surrey briefly outlines the exploration and settlement of the interior by the French. In Chapters 2 to 6 she notes the river routes and portage paths of the region, depicts the difficulties and methods of navigating the rivers, describes the various types of boats used, and considers the principal land routes, most of which had served as buffalo paths or Indian trails. Chapters 7 to 11 are devoted to "commercial processes," especially to the method of barter always used in the Indian trade, and to the rôle of silver, copper, and paper money and of credit in the other trade. The remaining chapters of the book (12 to 25) describe the trade between Louisiana and France, the slave trade, the domestic trade of lower Louisiana, the trade of the Illinois country, the fur trade (as developed by the French of Canada and the English of the eastern seaboard as well as by the settlers of Louisiana), and the less important trade of Louisiana with the French West Indies, Mexico, New Mexico, Texas, Florida, and Cuba, and with the English.

The non-geographic factors affecting these various branches of the trade of Louisiana are set forth in much detail, as are the facts concerning fluctuations in the prices of commodities, changes in the fortunes of rival traders, and similar matters. But the author ignores or recognizes inadequately many of the geographic conditions which influenced the development of the trade. Thus, in the pages devoted to the bitter rivalry between the French and the English for control of the fur trade of the lower lake region and the Ohio basin, one looks in vain for adequate recognition of the importance (1) of the relations of the St. Lawrence lowland and the Hudson-Mohawk depression as rival routes from the seaboard to the northern interior and (2) of the relations of various tributaries of the Ohio River to east-flowing, antecedent rivers of the Appalachians as affecting the western operations of the traders of Pennsylvania and Virginia. So obvious an influence in the trade of the Mississippi River as that of climate in differentiating the agricultural products of lower Louisiana and the Illinois country is ignored. Though a chapter is devoted to waterways and another to exploration and settlement, the outstanding facts (1) that the waterways made possible the rapid exploration of the interior by the French and largely determined the lines of their advance and (2) that the geography of the waterways fixed the location of most of their trading posts, are not made clear.

Maps showing the location of the French posts noted in the text, of the portage paths enumerated, and of the many Indian tribes referred to, as well as an index, would have added much to the usability of the book. On a crude map showing the approximate courses of certain trails, Detroit is located on the site of Port Huron, Fort Malden is represented as at the mouth of the St. Clair River, Danville appears in Indiana, and Peoria has been shifted to the eastern side of the Illinois River, while similar liberties have been taken with other posts and towns. The reviewer long has wondered when the fraternity of historians will recognize the importance of providing and effectively using maps, accurate maps, in historical works.

Dr. Surrey says in the preface, "In elaborating the theme an effort has been made to bring together all that is pertinent and available in French and English records." In view of this painstaking search for data, one is surprised to find no reference in the bibliography

or the footnotes to such studies as Turner's "Character and Influence of the Indian Trade in Wisconsin," Quaife's "Chicago and the Old Northwest," Hanna's "Wilderness Trail," or Alvord and Bidgood's "First Explorations of the Trans-Allegheny Region," the more so as such a doubtful authority as Parrish's "Historic Illinois" is cited several times. Dr. Surrey has, nevertheless, brought together a multitude of useful facts, most of them not readily available elsewhere, which no future student of early Louisiana can afford to ignore.

MARC DE VILLIERS. **A History of the Foundation of New Orleans (1717-1722)**
Transl. from the French by Warrington Dawson. Maps, ills. *Louisiana Hist. Quart.*
Vol. 3, 1920, No. 2, pp. 157-251.

The history of New Orleans may be said to commence with the year 1702 when De Remonville proposed the creation of a post at the "Mississippi Portage" (i.e. from Lake Pontchartrain). The date of the foundation "may be fixed at pleasure anywhere between the spring of 1717 and the month of June, 1722," the latter date following the decision that raised the town to the rank of capital. The vicissitudes of these years, which include the great flood of 1719, are here recounted.

GUIDES TO THE WEST INDIES

F. A. OBER. **A Guide to the West Indies, Bermuda, and Panama.** 3rd revised edit.
ix and 533 pp.; maps, ills., index. Dodd, Mead & Co., New York, 1920. \$3.50.
7 x 4½ inches.

K. J. BURDON. **A Handbook of St. Kitts-Nevis, a Presidency of the Leeward Islands Colony, Containing Information for Residents and Visitors Concerning the Islands of St. Christopher or St. Kitts, Nevis, and Anguilla.** viii and 247 pp.;
maps, ills., index. The West India Committee, London, 1920. 7 x 5 inches.

"A Guide to the West Indies, Bermuda, and Panama [the Canal Zone]," first published in 1908, is here brought up to date. For the tourist it is a comprehensive and useful volume. It might, however, be improved by the inclusion of more and better maps.

The handbook on St. Christopher (St. Kitts), Nevis, and Anguilla, which islands together constitute a Presidency of the Federal Colony of the Leeward Islands, is written by the wife of the present administrator. Mrs. Burdon has made good use of her opportunities to bring together in convenient form a large body of miscellaneous information useful to the traveler and in places suggestive to the geographer. Though small, the islands (area 155 square miles) have had an interesting and varied history; and this is described at some length. There are separate maps of the islands on the scale of 2 miles to the inch, and there is a reproduction of the "oldest known map of St. Kitts."

THE VEGETATION OF PARAGUAY

R. CHODAT. **La végétation du Paraguay: Résultats scientifiques d'une mission botanique suisse au Paraguay.** In collaboration with W. Vischer. Vol. 1, 157 pp.;
map, ills.; Vol. 2, pp. 158-290; ills. Imprimerie Jent, Geneva, 1916, 1917. 9½ x 6½
inches.

Because so little is known as yet about the general vegetative features of Paraguay, anything that will throw light on the subject is welcome to the ecologist and the plant geographer. While the recent publication of Chodat helps to some extent in giving glimpses of the vegetation of this country, it falls short of containing a comprehensive view of the general vegetative features. In a brief introductory chapter on climatology and physical geography there is an attempt to relate the vegetation to these two groups of factors, accompanied by a small sketch map of that part of the country east of the Paraguay River showing inadequately, except for limited areas, the physical features. This map does not show the vegetative types accompanying such features. From the text it is gathered that, generally speaking, the country is divided into two physical types, the low more or less swampy lands occupying the Paraguay portion of the Gran Chaco region west of the Paraguay River and in places as belts of greater or less extent on the western side of the river. This type has a vegetation similar to that of the Gran Chaco region of Argentina. The rest of the